

## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PO Box 500 Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

JON S. CORZINE

Governor

LUCILLE E. DAVY
Acting Commissioner

March 14, 2006

TO:

Chief School Administrator

Charter School Lead Person

FROM:

Anne Corwell, Director

Office of Grants Management

SUBJECT:

Hurricane Education Recovery Act Allocation Notice

On December 30, 2005, Congress passed the *Hurricane Education Recovery Act*. As you are aware, this legislation authorized new grant programs to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools in meeting the educational needs of students displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students program (Section 107 of the Act), provides funds, for the 2005-2006 school year only, to eligible LEAs to assist with the cost of educating these students. Under this program, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) grants funds to eligible LEAs to provide educational services for displaced students attending their public schools. LEAs are also responsible for submitting applications on behalf of displaced students who are attending eligible nonpublic schools within their geographic boundaries, and in turn, making payments to nonpublic school accounts established on behalf of those students.

The NJDOE established four quarterly count dates for identifying numbers of eligible displaced students: October 1, 2005; December 1, 2005; February 1, 2006; and April 1, 2006. The initial application included data for Quarter One (10/1/05) and Quarter Two (12/1/05) counts. The counts for the third quarter were due to the NJDOE on February 10, 2006. Quarter Four counts will be due to the NJDOE by April 10, 2006.

Your district's allocation notice is attached. The allocation amount is based on the student enrollment information reported and substantiated only for the first quarterly count date for which data was submitted to the NJDOE. Allocations for subsequent quarters will be made at a later date. In an effort to ensure that there are sufficient funds available for all students displaced by these hurricanes, the United States Department of Education (USDE) has based the first quarter allocations on half of the anticipated quarterly amounts. That is, the first quarter allocation is based on: (1) the number of displaced students reported as children without disabilities multiplied by \$750 plus (2) the number of displaced students reported as children with disabilities multiplied by \$937.50 less 1 percent state administration costs.

We anticipate that allocations will be adjusted after all enrollment counts, including adjusted counts, are submitted to the USDE on April 30, 2006.

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Please note LEAs are required to account for grant revenue received under the Hurricane Education Recovery Act in the special revenue fund. Separate accounting for aid received for students attending nonpublic schools and students within the district is as follows:

- Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students Attending Nonpublic Schools: Revenue 20-45XX; Expenditures 20 - (45X - 469) - 545 - 800 This grant is recorded in the special revenue fund (fund 20) using an available revenue account in the range 45XX (Other Restricted Grants - in Aid from the Federal Government through the State). For the payment to the nonpublic school, use an available code in the program range 450-469 to create 20-(45X-469)-545-800 (Other Federal Projects/Payments to Nonpublic Schools/Other Objects). These accounts must be used only for the Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students attending nonpublic schools. Disbursements of the funds to the nonpublic school(s) must be made within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of payments from the NJDOE.
- Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students Within the LEA: Revenue 20-45XX; Expenditures 20-(45X-469)-XXX-XXX This grant is recorded in the special revenue fund (fund 20) using a separate (from the aid for nonpublic school students) revenue account in the range 45XX (Other Restricted Grants - in Aid from the Federal Government through the State). Expenditures should be recorded using an available code in fund 20 in the program range 450-469 and appropriate function and object codes using the minimum Chart of Accounts for grants.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Andrea Sunderville, entitlement coordinator, Office of Grants Management at (609) 943-9946. Thank you for your cooperation as we work collaboratively to implement this grant program.

## AC/AS:

Attachment

c: State Board of Education members Acting Commissioner Lucille Davy Isaac Bryant Penelope Lattimer Yut'se Thomas

**Assistant Commissioners** 

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